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Guidance on Diplomatic and Press Briefing on
Warsaw Meeting January 20

Diplomatic Briefing

We discussed with the Chinese our wish to see a reduction in tensions in Asia, our desire for an improvement in our own relationships with Peking, and that we did not wish to isolate ourselves from mainland China. We emphasized that we did not wish to interfere in the Sino-Soviet dispute and that our interests were in working to improve relations with both Peking and Moscow. We reiterated the Guam Doctrine with its emphasis on self-reliance combined with the maintenance of existing US commitments in Asia. We recalled our trade and travel moves of 1969 as well as a number of other proposals for exchange, contact, and communication between the US and mainland China and expressed interest in learning the Chinese views of these as well as any other issues the Chinese might want to discuss.

We emphasized our general wish for peace in Asia and our hope that the Chinese would contribute toward this general goal. In the same way we recalled the importance of disarmament in a reduction of tensions and expressed hope that this was a subject we and Peking might discuss further. We noted our continuing wish for peace in the Taiwan area while reiterating that our commitments to the GRC remained unaltered. Finally, we renewed our concern for Americans being held by Communist China and urged their release.

The tone of our presentation was conciliatory. We did not engage in polemical exchanges. Our principal purpose was to improve the atmosphere for subsequent talks and no fundamental shift in US policy voiced on any major issues.

Press Briefing

US Ambassador Walter J. Stoessel, Jr. and Chinese Charge d'Affaires Lei Yang met for hours in Warsaw on January 20 in the Chinese Embassy. They exchanged views on a number of subjects in a cordial atmosphere. By mutual agree-

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ment, the specific subjects dealt with are kept in confidence. It was agreed that they would be in touch in the near future regarding a subsequent meeting but no specific date was agreed upon for such a meeting.

(We would also provide additional general background information on the arrangements and circumstances of the meeting.)